

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED
AMENDMENT TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS RULES,
RULE 510-8-.02 *TYPES OF CONTINUING EDUCATION* AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (hereinafter "Board") proposes an amendment to the Board Rule 510-8-.02 *Types of Continuing Education* (herein after "proposed rule amendment").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amendment and a synopsis of the proposed amendment, is being mailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed amendment may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

A public hearing will be held at 1:00 P.M. on June 19, 2009 at the Secretary of State's Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive in Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed chapter. At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Written comments are welcome. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 P.M.) on June 12, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to Randall D. Vaughn, Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. Telephone (478) 207-2440 or fax (866) 888-7127.

The Board will consider the proposed rule amendment for adoption at a meeting scheduled to begin at 1:15 P.M. on June 19, 2009 at the Secretary of State's Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Board has the authority to amend rule 510-8-.02 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-39-5, 43-39-13 and 43-39-15.

At its meeting on April 17, 2009 the Board voted that the amendment of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-39-5, 43-39-13 and 43-39-15.

Additionally, at the meeting, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-39-5, 43-39-13 and 43-39-15 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The amendment of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated in the field of psychology.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4.

This 18th day of May, 2009.

Randall D. Vaughn
Division Director
Professional Licensing Boards Division

Posted: May 18, 2009

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS RULE
510-8-.02 TYPES OF CONTINUING EDUCATION**

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed amendment is to clarify that continuing education hours of varied subject matter must be earned “in person.”

MAIN FEATURES: The main feature of the proposed amendment is the addition of language clearly defining that continuing education hours obtained in professional ethics, psychopharmacology and cultural diversity, of Areas I, III and IV, will only be accepted if earned by physically attending the training “in person.” The following paragraphs are amended: (2)(a), (2)(b), and

**THE PROPOSED CHAPTER TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS
RULES, CHAPTER 510-8-.02 TYPES OF CONTINUING EDUCATION**

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted.

510-8-.02 Types of Continuing Education. Amended.

(1) Successful completion of the board examination of the American Board of Professional Psychology will satisfy all continuing education requirements in the biennium during which the examination is passed. Documentation from ABPP must be submitted to the Board.

(2) Continuing Education requirements may also be met through hours acquired in the following:

(a) **Professional Ethics.** A licensed psychologist must complete a minimum of three clock hours in professional ethics to renew his/her license each biennium. These hours must be earned in person through Areas I, III, or IV. The main focus of the program must be on the ethical principles involved. Hours concerned exclusively with legal, legislative, or malpractice issues will not fulfill the ethics requirement. Documentation must include date, title, location, sponsoring agency and hours. A psychologist who serves as a peer reviewer, the completion of which is acknowledged by the Board, for an alleged violation of the law or rules will also meet the three-hour ethics requirement for the current biennium if the review is submitted as a written report to the Board. A psychologist who serves on a subcommittee of the Board for oral examinations will also meet the three hour ethics requirement for the current biennium. A psychologist who serves as a member of the Ethics committee for the Georgia Psychological Association or as a Board member of the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists during the biennium will also meet the three-hour ethics requirement.

(b) **Psychopharmacology.** A licensed psychologist must complete a minimum of three hours in the area of Clinical Psychopharmacology to renew his/her license each biennium. I-O psychologists or Consulting psychologists who are not otherwise engaged in a health service practice are exempt from this requirement. Documentation must include date, title, location, sponsoring agency and hours. These hours must be earned in person through areas I, III, or IV.

(c) **Cultural Diversity.** All first time renewals must complete a minimum of three hours in the area of Cultural Diversity. Cultural Diversity courses will deal with issues that arise due to the differences between racial groups, gender, age, religions, lifestyles, beliefs, physical capabilities, ethnicity, socio-economic, and subcultures. Documentation must include date, title, location, sponsoring agency and hours. These hours must be earned in person through areas I, III, or IV. This requirement may be satisfied by documentation on the graduate transcript of a specific course taken in cultural diversity while in graduate school.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-39-5, 43-39-13 and 43-39-15